

Claims

5 1. An anhydrous liquid tooth whitening composition comprising a peroxide-containing compound and an orally acceptable carrier wherein the carrier includes a humectant, a bioadhesive agent, and a film-forming component consisting essentially of a water-insoluble film-forming agent and a solvent for the film-forming agent.

10 2. An anhydrous liquid tooth whitening composition according to claim 1 wherein the peroxide is selected from carbamide peroxide, and mixtures of carbamide peroxide with hydrogen peroxide and/or a hydrogen peroxide complex with vinyl pyrrolidone.

15 3. An anhydrous liquid tooth whitening composition according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the humectant is glycerin.

20 4. An anhydrous liquid tooth whitening composition according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the bioadhesive agent is selected from xanthan gum, a carbomer and PVP and its copolymers and mixtures thereof.

25 5. An anhydrous liquid tooth whitening composition according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the film forming agent is ethyl cellulose.

6. An anhydrous liquid tooth whitening composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the solvent is ethanol.

30 7. A kit of parts comprising an anhydrous liquid tooth whitening composition according to any one of claims 1 to 6, a container for housing the composition and an applicator for applying the composition to teeth to be whitened.

8. A method of whitening teeth comprising:
 - a. preparing a tooth whitening composition according to any one of claims 1 to 6;
 - 5 b. painting the composition onto teeth to be whitened;
 - c. maintaining the composition in contact with the teeth for a plurality of hours per day; and then
 - d. repeating steps b and c for multiple days to thereby whiten the teeth.

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